

# Summary reports in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health

## BELGIUM

### Update from the Brussels-Capital Region on reply to the request of the UNECE Executive Secretary (Ref.: 2020/OES/287/ENV/181)

—  
February 2021

#### Executive summary

*Please provide an overall evaluation of the progress achieved in implementing the Protocol in your country during the reporting period. Please provide a short description of the main steps taken and highlight important achievements, key challenges, success factors and concrete good practice examples.*

*Suggested length: maximum 2 pages*

*This report made in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health is the first reporting for the Brussels region. The Brussels region contributes to this reporting cycle by giving an overview of activities and initiatives in the different fields covered by the Protocol, and defines specific targets, target dates or baseline conditions where relevant in the Brussels-Capital Region.*

#### Part one General aspects

1. Were targets and target dates established in your country in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol?

*If targets have been revised, please indicate the date of adoption and list the revised target areas. Please provide detailed information in part two.*

*Please provide detailed information on the target areas in part two.*

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

*No specific targets were set in the Brussels-Capital Region pursuant the Protocol so far.*

*As it is the case for the 2 other Regions, the Brussels-Capital Region also considers that the objectives of the Protocol Water & Health are closely linked to the objectives required by the legislation at European Union level, especially those established by or under the Water Framework Directive of 2000. Therefore, for most of the topics covered by the Protocol, it was deemed that the EU objectives can be considered as the targets under the Protocol. Nevertheless, regarding the interpretive note “The provisions of the Protocol on Water and Health and their relationship with the European Union law governing water and health”, the Brussels-Capital Region has made some complementary additions, corrections and*

*proposals for the topics of the Protocol that are not directly or fully covered by European law.*

*In accordance with this EU obligations, a public inquiry on the river basin management plan of the Brussels-Capital Region and the action programs was held twice (in 2011 for the first Plan and in 2016 for the 2nd) to ensure public participation. In relation with water related health aspects and aspects regarding drinking water provision and quality, targets and actions are those of other directives such as directive 98/83/EC 'drinking water', directive 91/271 EEC "wastewater treatment" and also Bathwater directive 2006/7/EC*

2. Were targets and target dates published and, if so, how?

*Please explain whether the targets and target dates were published, made available to the public (e.g., online, official publication, media) and communicated to the secretariat.*

*Most of the targets aimed by the Protocol originate from the implementation process of the EU Water Framework Directive. They have been published in the programmes of measures for the River Basin Management plan. As the Brussels-Capital Region is concerned, the River Basin Management Plan 2016-2021 was adopted and published January 26<sup>th</sup> 2017. The programmes of measures have been subject to public consultation during 6 months in 2016 and are on-line available for the general public: <https://environnement.brussels/thematiques/eau/plan-de-gestion-de-leau/plan-de-gestion-de-leau-2016-2021>*

3. Has your country established national or local arrangements for coordination between competent authorities for setting targets? If so please describe, including information on which public authority(ies) took the leadership and coordinating role, which public authorities were involved and how coordination was ensured.

*For Brussels, it's Brussels Environment, as the public service institution in charge of the environment and energy for the Brussels-Capital Region, that has made and coordinated the Brussels contribution to this report.*

4. Was a programme of measures or action plan developed to support implementation of the targets? If so, please briefly describe that programme or plan, including how financial implications were taken into account.

*The programme of measures that meets the Protocol's targets is the one required by the Water Framework Directive and that must be reviewed every 6 years. The Brussels-Capital Region's programme for the period 2016-2021 includes some 120 actions to enhance water quality : surface water, groundwater, drinking water, better sanitation,... This programme of measures has been subject to a cost-effectiveness analysis and a detailed cost per action analysis.*

5. What has been done in your country to ensure public participation in the process of target setting in accordance with article 6, paragraph 2, and how was the outcome of public participation taken into account in the final targets set?

*As answered for question nr. 1, given the Protocol shows a great overlap with the objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), no specific public participation has been done in the context of the Protocol. However, as required by the WFD, the programme of measures have been subject to public consultation during 6 months in 2016 starting with a regional public information session and consultation with the 19 municipalities of the Region. The public could consult the draft Plan online (<https://environnement.brussels/thematiques/eau/plan-de-gestion-de-leau/plan-de-gestion-de-leau-2016-2021>) or at their local authority or infopoint of Brussels Environment.*

*The various opinions and comments received were taken into account in the final version of the Plan. The Government Order of 26 January 2017 approving the plan reflects the way in which this consultation was taken into account. They are on-line available for the general public at the above-mentioned address.*

6. Please provide information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on which public authorities had the main responsibilities and what other stakeholders were involved.

*For Brussels, it's Brussels Environment, who is the public service institution in charge of the environment and energy for the Brussels-Capital Region, that has made and coordinated the Brussels contribution to this report. Some information comes from the water operator VIVAQUA in charge of drinking water distribution and sewage network in the Brussels Region.*

7. Please report any particular circumstances that are relevant for understanding the report, including whether there is a federal and/or decentralized decision-making structure.

*As set out in the 1st report of Belgium prepared for the protocol, Belgium is a federal state in which competence on environmental and health policy lay mainly within the different regions. The process of target setting under the protocol is therefore in essence a regional process.*

*The process of target-setting in Belgium is made at the regional level. Competences in the field of health and environment are indeed mainly regionalized. The role of the national focal point for health for the Protocol W&H was mainly oriented and developed in the way of disseminate information of the Protocol to the regions, and ensure the best possible consultation between the different authorities. In this context, the national focal point for health has made two presentations of the Protocol to the members of the NEHAP (National Environment and Health Action Plan) stressing its objectives, the need of target-setting, and the conditions of reporting. A coordination meeting aimed for regional and national stakeholders was made at the scientific Institute of Public Health (Sciensano). Moreover, the Protocol was presented at the Task-Force Environment & Health regrouping ministries and administrations from the Walloon Region, the French Community, and the German-speaking Community. Several meetings were also held between the focal point health and the focal point environment.*

*To achieve its objectives, the national focal point for health has ensured a right participation in the different meetings under the Protocol (Working Group, Task Force on surveillance, Workshop on reporting).*

*For Brussels, it's the first reporting cycle. Targets, target dates and baseline conditions aren't mentioned everywhere but the major actions taken for each target under the scope of the Protocol are mentioned.*

## **Part two**

### **Targets and target dates set and assessment of progress**

*For countries that have set or revised targets and target dates, please provide information specifically related to the progress towards achieving them. If you have not set targets in a certain area, please explain why.*

*For countries in the process of setting targets, please provide information on baseline conditions and/or targets considered under the relevant target areas.*

*Suggested length: one page (330 words) per target area.*

## **I. Quality of the drinking water supplied (art. 6, para. 2 (a))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*Target I.1 : To ensure a high level of the quality of the drinking water supplied.*

*The standards for drinking water quality from the EU 98/83 were used, as set in the Brussels Government Order of 24 January 2002 concerning the quality and supply of water intended for human consumption.*

*Target date : on-going. (permanent obligation)*

*Target I.2: To inform consumers in case of non-conformity to the quality standards, especially for the lead*

*Any exceeding of a parameter is communicated to the consumers with the necessary recommendations and measures included.*

*Target date : on-going. (permanent obligation)*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*Actions taken for Target I.1*

- Daily controls and analysis by the water operator*
- Control on the monitoring program by the administrative authority*

*Actions taken for Target I.2*

- Regulatory duty for the water supplier to inform and to take corrective action if quality standards are exceeded*

*In 2017, 99,61 % of the drinking water at the tap met the quality requirements in the Brussels region.*

*Following the publication of directive 2015/1787, the Government Order of 2002 was modified in November 2017. The obligated control program set up by the water supplier can now be based on a risk assessment (parameters/frequencies can be limited or expanded based on the results of the risk assessment).*

VIVAQUA, the water operator in charge of the production and distribution of the drinking water in the Brussels-Capital Region, must realize **daily controls and analysis** to ensure that the water supplied meets the quality standards.

**Figure 10.6 : Nombre et types de contrôles de la qualité de l'eau distribuée (2007-2018)**

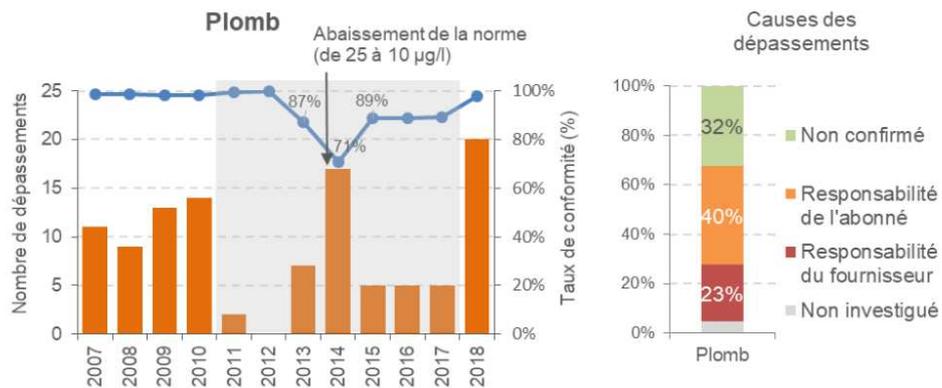
Source : Bruxelles Environnement, rapports trisannuels sur la qualité de l'eau distribuée (2004-2016) et traitement des résultats complets des contrôles (2017-2018)



Lead is the parameter that is exceeded the most. The majority of the lead pipes in the public network have been removed. The determined lead violations mainly came from lead in the indoor installations which is the responsibility of the owner of the house/building. Any exceeding of a parameter is communicated to the consumers with the necessary recommendations and measures included.

**Figure 10.11 : Evolution du nombre d'analyses non conformes, du taux de conformité et causes des dépassements pour le plomb (2007-2018)**

Source : Bruxelles Environnement, rapports trisannuels sur la qualité de l'eau distribuée (2007-2016) et traitement des résultats complets des contrôles (2017-2018)



3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

As ensuring a high level of the quality of the drinking water supplied is an on-going target/obligation, it is not relevant to assess progress but the reduction of lead in drinking water is certainly the main challenge in Brussels-Capital Region. The programme of measures of the River basin management plan for Brussels foresees to carry out information campaigns to gradually phase out indoor lead installations. This action has not started yet.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
--------	--------	--------------------------

<b>Target I.1</b> : To ensure a high level of the quality of the drinking water supplied.	- Daily controls and analysis by the water operator	On-going
	- Control on the monitoring program by the administrative authority	On-going
<b>Target I.2:</b> To inform consumers in case of non-conformity to the quality standards, especially for the lead	- Regulatory duty for the water supplier to inform and to take corrective action if quality standards are exceeded	On-going
	- new campaign to phase out indoor lead installations	Not started yet

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.1 ‘achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all’. This target of “ensuring a good level of the quality of the drinking water supplied” must be achieved regarding the principle of equity and affordability.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A*

## **II. Reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease (art. 6, para. 2 (b))**

*For each target set in this area: Federal– update Belgium*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*In the Brussels Region there is no specific surveillance system for drinking water-related sickness. Major domestic outbreaks of cholera, bacillary dysentery (shigellosis), EHEC (E. coli), viral hepatitis A and typhoid via the water supply have not occurred in the last years/decades.*

*The legislation applicable for indoor swimming pools is included in part XVII of this report. And as stated in part XV, open air swimming in surface waters is not a possibility yet in the Brussels Region.*

*However, the risk of legionellosis cannot be excluded as the latest studies show:*

*The Legionella pneumophila bacterium has not been detected in any of the nurseries analysed by the CRIPI (Cellule Régionale d'Intervention en Pollution Intérieure) between 2006 and 2019. Since April 2009, any case of legionellosis in the Brussels Region must be declared to the Medical Hygiene Inspector within 24 hours. In addition, a network of laboratories and the National Reference Centre for Legionellosis participate in its epidemiological surveillance. An increase in cases has been observed since 2009 in Belgium (possibly due to better availability of the test). The Brussels-Capital Region has the highest incidence rate of the three Regions:*

3.0/100,000 inhabitants in 2017 and 4.9/100,000 inhabitants in 2018 (Sciensano, 2019).

*In the light of this observation, we propose to set a new target under this Protocol to foreseen a risk assessment of domestic distribution systems*

**Target II.1:** *In relation to Legionella, to foreseen a general analysis of the potential risks associated with the domestic distribution system and monitoring with focus on the priority premises*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*- Brussels Government Order of 24 January 2002 concerning the quality and supply of water intended for human consumption.*

*- daily control and analysis by the water supplier (EHEC and coliforms);*

*- Brussels Government Order of 10 October 2002 laying down operating conditions for swimming pools;*

*- Concerning 'wet' cooling towers, special conditions for the prevention of legionella are included in the environmental permit; a management and maintenance plan must be drawn up which contains information about the treatment program, checks carried out and frequencies of the analyses.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target II.1</b> : In relation to Legionella, to foreseen a general analysis of the potential risks associated with the domestic distribution system and monitoring with focus on the priority premises.	Only if analysis or monitoring shows that action needs to be taken (regulatory level, control, review of conditions in environmental permits...)	Not started yet

*This issue will be dealt with the transposition of the new Drinking water Directive in the next 2 years..*

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.1 'achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all' and goal nr. 6.2 'achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*Outbreaks and incidents of water-related diseases are rare. The fact that Domestic outbreaks of cholera, bacillary dysentery (shigellosis), EHEC (E. coli), viral hepatitis A and typhoid via the water supply have not occurred in the last years/decades justifies the non-setting of target.*

### **III. Access to drinking water (art. 6, para. 2 (c))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*Due to the urban landscape, the current level of connection to public drinking water supply is estimated to be 100 % of the population.*

*In 1998, the only water supplier in the Brussels region, VIVAQUA, has set up a social fund for people with payment problems. This fund is managed by the OCMW-CPAS (public centre for social welfare).*

**Main target III.1** : *Provide drinking water at a sustainable price, taking into account the “cost-recovery of water services” principle and encouraging a sustainable water use.*

*This goal is mentioned in the articles 2 and 6 of the Ordinance of 20 October 2006 establishing a framework for water policy in the Brussels-Capital Region. An independent water price regulator has been in place since 2018 to objectivise the costs to be included in the water price. This authority has set up a pricing methodology that meets a dozen legally established guidelines, including non-discrimination between users, the pursuit of rational, sustainable and economical use of resources, the maintenance of a balanced development of investments by water operators,...*

Target date: *on-going. (permanent obligation)*

**Main target III.2**: *Provide drinking water at a sustainable price taking into account the difficulties of access for the most precarious households. (see challenge in sub-question 3.)*

*As set out in the Government agreement, it is planned to set up a social tariff for this precarious public. This will take the form of a social intervention by the Region through the water operator. The ban on interrupting the supply of drinking water is also a commitment that the Government wishes to put into practice by 2024.*

Target date : *2022*

**Main target III.3** : *Provide adequate framework and control for self-producers of drinking water.*

*The number of self-producers of drinking water is very low in the Brussels-Capital Region due to the high rate of public supply but with the announced increase in the price of water and the potential (but not yet proven) risks linked to the supply of drinking water, this is an issue that needs to be taken into account now.*

Target date: *on-going. (permanent obligation)*

**Main target III.4** : Improve the offer of public fountains and guarantee the maintenance of these structures

*This objective is also included in the governmental agreement.*

*Target date : 2024*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*The current water price for households - establishing a progressive tariff and taking into account the number of persons in the household - motivates users towards a sustainable water use.*

*Since 2020, an independant organism to control the water price will approve any change in the tariffs applied by water supplier and used water sewage and treatment company. This organism must guarantee the good application of the principle of cost recovery for the water services.*

*Besides, a social fund intervenes in the payment of the water invoice or the reparation of leaks for people with payment problems. The fund is financed by a contribution of 0.03 € for each m<sup>3</sup> invoiced.*

*The way to reach the **second target** is still in discussion but is written down in the Brussels Government agreement 2019-2024. The idea is to provide financial assistance to people in financial difficulty (status linked to health care insurance) to pay their water bill.*

*As regard to the **third target**, a new regulation adopted in November 2018 (coming into force on the 1st April 2019) provides now an appropriate framework. The self-producer as manager of a groundwater catchment must take preventive measures to avoid contamination of the catchment water. The designation of prevention zones is not always possible but is made compulsory when the catchment provides water for human consumption for more than 50 people or on average more than 10m<sup>3</sup> per day. The control of the quality is the responsibility of the owner of the catchment.*

*For target III.4, an analysis of the needs for public fountains must be carried out, in particular on their degree of use. The 19 Brussels municipalities were consulted. Depending on the results of this assessment, the objective will be to increase the presence of such drinking water fountains in public spaces.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*The implementation of the cost recovery principle is an ongoing process, continuously being updated in accordance with newly achieved information, knowledge and transparency in the costs associated with the different water services. A new 'water regulator' has been put in place in order to precisely improve this objective of fair and equitable pricing.*

*The main challenge for the next years will be to guarantee this access for the most vulnerable part of the population. The water precarity is thus a topic on which the Region has to focus on : mechanism of Social Fund must be review, a social tariff should be put in place, the installation of individual water meters will have to be pursued...*

*The question of the development of public fountains will also be raised. On the basis of an analysis of the current supply, the needs encountered and subject to clarification of the responsibilities of each party, the Region will consider increasing the number of free water access points.*

Finally, the question of the security of water supply will be further explored in the context of climate change and following the latest drought episodes in Belgium.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target III.1</b> : Provide drinking water at a sustainable price, taking into account the “cost-recovery of water services” principle and encouraging a sustainable water use.	Establishment of new pricing methodology Validation of the water price on this basis	Pricing methodology : Executed  Validation of the new tariffs : On going (by the end of 2021)
<b>Target III.2</b> : Provide drinking water at a sustainable price taking into account the difficulties of access for the most precarious households	Social Water Fund  Social intervention in the water price	Executed  On-going (expected for 1 January 2022)
<b>Target III.3</b> : Provide adequate framework and control for self-producers of drinking water.	Regulatory framework  Control	Executed  On going
<b>Target III.4</b> : Improve the offer of public fountains and guarantee the maintenance of these structures	Analysis of the needs for public fountains  Installation of new fountains	On going (rate: 6/10)  Not started yet

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.1 ‘achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all’.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

#### **IV. Access to sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (d))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

***Main target IV.1:*** *Ensure a treatment of waste water in compliance with regulations with the highest possible collection rate.*

*The targets on sanitation are set for more than 25 years in the Brussels-Capital Region with the transposition of Directive 91/271/EEC (Order of the Brussels Government of 23 March*

1994). The entire territory of the Brussels-Capital Region is a sensitive area that must be equipped with an urban waste water collection system that meets the requirements of Annex I.A. to this Order (tertiary treatment of nitrogen and phosphorus). By derogation to this, individual systems or other appropriate systems ensuring an identical level of environmental protection may be used. In practice, this kind of individual systems are quite marginal as we estimate that the collection rate is more than 98%.

The target date was 31 march 1998.

**Main target IV.2:** Clarify the framework for waste water treatment when collecting in the public sanitation network is not possible

Target date : 2022

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5 of the Protocol).

*Starting from nowhere, the major challenge of the Brussels-Capital Region was the construction of 2 regional wastewater treatment plants that became operational in 2000 and 2007 and the collectors to carry the wastewater to these stations. Together, they can treat the wastewater of 1,460,000 inhabitants-equivalents.*

*The Program of measures foresees the improvement of the treatment in dry weather conditions (priority action nr. 1.5).*

*The clarification of the legal framework on individual sanitation systems was also necessary to ensure the achievement of the target. A first step has been taken by means of a modification of the Ordinance of 20 October 2006 establishing a framework for the water policy and the list of installations subject to environmental permits, but this still involves drawing up a map determining the zones that will remain under autonomous sanitation in the territory of the Brussels-Capital Region.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*The progress made is immense, when we know that before 2000 all of the Region's wastewater flowed into the Senne River. This is no longer acceptable nowadays. The length and complexity of the construction projects caused a lot of delays, it was only in 2012 and 2014 that the last collectors were finalized.*

*The Brussels-South wastewater treatment plant has also undergone a major modernization to improve its water treatment.*

*Actions :*

- *Construction, exploitation of wastewater treatment plants (UWWTP) : finished*
- *improvement of the treatment by the UWWTP in dry weather : on-going*
- *Clarify the legal framework for individual sanitation systems : on-going (a map must now be edited and published)*

*As a challenge, we can mention the better possible improvement on the cost-recovery on sanitation services in Brussels-Capital region. After a first step in 2009, an update was made in 2015 and from now on, an independent water price control body will have to guarantee the proper application of this principle.*

*Regarding the second target in this topic, a better consideration of the sanitation regime of each area of the territory (collective or autonomous) and the constraint of connection to the*

sewer network must be reinforced and controlled in practice. The legal framework is now adapted and progress should be made on a case-by-case basis.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target IV.1</b> : Ensure a treatment of waste water in compliance with regulations with the highest possible collection rate.	Operation of the two regional treatment plants in compliance with the provisions on urban waste water treatment	On going (rate : 8/10)
	Better possible improvement on the cost-recovery on sanitation services in Brussels-Capital region	On going (rate : 8/10)
<b>Target IV.2:</b> Clarify the framework for waste water treatment when collecting in the public sanitation network is not possible	Adaptation of the legislation	Executed
	Drawing up a map of the sanitation regime covering the entire territory of the Brussels-Capital Region and approval by the Government	On going (rate : 5/10)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.2 'achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

## V. Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for water supply (art. 6, para. 2 (e))

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*Within the meaning of the Ordinance of 20 October 2006, legal entities involved in the water cycle must, among other things, comply with the principle of quality of service, defined as the guarantee of high levels of health and safety protection through the imposition of quality standards and monitoring of operators' performance.*

**Main target V.1:** *Keeping a high level of performance in water supply including continuity of the service, sufficient quantity, good management of the assets.*

**Target date :** *on-going (permanent obligation)*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5 of the Protocol).

*Action 1 : Ensure the maintenance of the drinking water distribution system (priority action 4.1 of the program of measures in the Brussels Water management plan 2016-2021)*

*The legislation concerning drinking water does not make any statements concerning the performance level of the public drinking water supplies. Aspects of the drinking water quality are covered by the legislation since the ultimate aim is to supply clean and healthy water at any time and at a reasonable price. This supply would have to comply with the needs of the households, industry, etc.*

*Aspects concerning the performance of drinking water supplies (continuity of the supply, sufficient quantity, supply in emergency situations, etc.) are incorporated in an order of the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region (3 December 2015) that has defined a list of Key performance indicators (KPI) for water supply as stated (in French) here below:*

	Dénomination	Définitions	Unité	Pilote
1.1	Nombre annuel d'interruptions non- programmées de service	Les interruptions non programmées font référence au nombre de fuites et de travaux non prévus	Nombre	VIVAQUA
1.2	Disponibilité de la ressource	Durée moyenne des autorisations de captage	Années	VIVAQUA
1.3	Continuité du service du réseau d'adduction	Capacité de production maximale par rapport au niveau de pointe historique	%	VIVAQUA
1.3bis	Continuité du service du réseau d'adduction	Capacité de débit de fourniture maximal en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale par rapport au niveau de pointe historique	%	VIVAQUA

	Dénomination	Définition	Unité	Pilote
3.1	Consommation électrique dans l'approvisionnement et la distribution d'eau potable en Région Bruxelles-Capitale	Total des consommations haute tension - données disponibles - et basse tension - données obtenues sur base d'une clé de répartition - en approvisionnement et distribution d'eau potable en Région Bruxelles-Capitale. Représente la consommation des installations du réseau de distribution ramenée au m <sup>3</sup> à l'entrée des communes - incluant les consommations non enregistrées	kWh/m <sup>3</sup>	VIVAQUA
3.2	Indice linéaire des volumes non enregistrés	Rapport entre les pertes de distribution (pertes réelles et volumes non facturés) en Région Bruxelles-Capitale et les kilomètres de conduites en Région Bruxelles-Capitale	m <sup>3</sup> /km	VIVAQUA
3.3	Rendement du réseau de distribution	Tel que prévu dans l'EBCLes volumes achetés sont les volumes relevés hebdomadairement par VIVAQUA aux compteurs d'entrée des communes et facturés à [1 VIVAQUA] <sup>1</sup> (période de référence est l'année calendrier). Les volumes facturés sont les volumes effectivement facturés par [1 VIVAQUA] <sup>1</sup> au cours d'un exercice - ils peuvent porter sur des consommations de l'exercice précédent. Cet indicateur s'analyse de manière tendancielle.	%	VIVAQUA
3.4	Taux annuel de renouvellement des conduites de distribution	Rapport entre les kilomètres de conduites rénovées et remplacées en Région Bruxelles-Capitale et le total des kilomètres de conduites en Région Bruxelles-Capitale, excluant l'éventuel dédoublement des conduites	%	VIVAQUA
3.5	Taux annuel de renouvellement des branchements	Rapport entre le nombre de branchement renouvelés - un renouvellement étant défini par le remplacement de tout le branchement - en Région Bruxelles-Capitale et le nombre total de branchements en Région Bruxelles-Capitale	%	VIVAQUA
3.6	Taux annuel d'extension du réseau actuel	Rapport entre le nombre de kilomètres d'extension du réseau et le nombre total de kilomètres de conduites	%	VIVAQUA
3.7	Taux du réseau d'adduction en mauvais état	Rapport entre le nombre de kilomètres du réseau d'adduction en mauvais état et le nombre total de kilomètres du réseau d'adduction	%	VIVAQUA

3.8	Taux de réparation du réseau	Rapport entre la longueur du réseau réparé (en km), sur la longueur du réseau en mauvais état (en km)	%	VIVAQUA
-----	------------------------------	---	---	---------

Action 2: Establishment of tariff methodologies that seek a high level of performance from water operators

The tariffs answer to a methodology which has been drawn up in accordance with several guidelines, amongst which “tariffs encourage water operators to improve performance and carry out the research and development necessary for their activities, taking into account in particular their investment plans as approved by the Government and criteria for efficient use of water resources;”

Action 3: Yearly description of the quality of the service delivered by the water operators

Water operators are required to provide an annual report describing the quality of their service during the previous calendar year.

This report shall contain at least the following data :

- (1) the number, frequency and average duration of interruptions in water supply and sanitation;
- (2) the nature of the failures and the list of emergency interventions;
- (3) the time taken to process claims and manage emergency calls;
- (4) connection and repair times.

Action 4: New management and investments program launched by the watersupplier VIVAQUA

Action 5: Improving the legal protection of groundwater in catchment protection areas to reduce the costs of water purification

An order of the Brussels Government of 2002 has been updated in 2017 to reinforce the legal protection (‘finished’) but there are still actions to be taken within the framework of this order..(‘on-going’ and ‘not started’)

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target V.1:</b> Keeping a high level of performance in water supply including continuity of the service, sufficient quantity, good management of the assets.	Action 1: Ensure the maintenance of the drinking water distribution system	On going (rate : 7/10)
	Action 2: Establishment of tariff methodologies that seek a high level of performance from water operators	Executed
		On going

	<p>Action 3: Yearly description of the quality of the service delivered by the water operators</p> <hr/> <p>Action 4: New management and investments program launched by the watersupplier</p> <hr/> <p>Action 5: Improving the legal protection of groundwater in catchment protection areas to reduce the costs of water purification</p>	<p>On going</p> <p>On going (rate : 5/10)</p>
--	---	--

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.1 'achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all' and goal nr. 6.2 'achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A*

## **VI. Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (e))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

**Main target VI.1:** *Keeping a high level of performance of the collective system for sanitation (collect and treatment by the 2 regional waste water treatment plants) including continuity of the service, conformity with the discharges standards,...*

Target date : *on-going (permanent obligation)*

Sub-target: *Clarify the framework for individual treatment plants*

Target date : *2019*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*The Brussels-Capital Region must comply with Directive 91/271/EEC and the requirements established in its Annex I (A).*

As it is the case for water supply, KPI are set for the quality of the urban wastewater sewage network:

4.1	Taux de renouvellement des réseaux de collecte des eaux usées	Rapport entre le nombre de kilomètres de réseau renouvelés et le nombre total de kilomètres du réseau, longueur à prendre en considération en date du 1er janvier de l'année N. Par " renouvellement " on entend la réhabilitation des conduites par le remplacement d'éléments en béton, par chemisage, par gunitage ou par pose de coques.	%	[ <sup>1</sup> VIVAQUA] <sup>1</sup>
4.2	Taux d'extension du réseau de collectes des eaux usées	Rapport entre nombre de kilomètres d'extension du réseau de collecte des eaux usées sur le total de kilomètres du réseau de collecte des eaux usées	%	[ <sup>1</sup> VIVAQUA] <sup>1</sup>
4.3	Indicateur de débordement d'effluents dans les locaux des usagers	Nombre total de plaintes relatives au débordement de réseau sur base annuelle	Nombre	[ <sup>1</sup> VIVAQUA] <sup>1</sup>
4.4	Indicateur de quantité d'eau usée collectée	Collecte des eaux usées par kilomètre de réseau de collecte des eaux usées. Il n'est en effet pas encore possible de calculer les volumes de surverses, mais un travail d'inventaire des déversoirs va bientôt être entrepris par les acteurs du cycle de l'eau. Le nombre de km considérés est celui utilisé pour l'indicateur 4.1 au 1er janvier de l'année N.	m <sup>3</sup> /km	[ <sup>1</sup> VIVAQUA] <sup>1</sup>

And for the treatment plants :

	Dénomination	Définition	Unité	Pilote
5.1	Consommation énergétique dans le traitement des eaux usées	Rapport entre la consommation énergétique totale consommée par la station d'épuration dans le traitement des eaux usées et les m <sup>3</sup> d'eau enregistrés à l'entrée des stations d'épuration sur base annuelle	kWh/m <sup>3</sup>	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau
5.2	Consommation énergétique achetée dans le traitement des eaux usées	Rapport entre la consommation énergétique achetée - n'incluant pas l'énergie produite - par la station d'épuration dans le traitement des eaux usées et les m <sup>3</sup> d'eau enregistrés à l'entrée des stations d'épuration sur base annuelle	kWh/m <sup>3</sup>	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau.
5.3	Intensité d'autocontrôle de la qualité de l'eau rejetée avant traitement	Rapport entre le nombre de tests réalisés avant traitement et le nombre de tests prévus dans le plan d'autocontrôle de la Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau	%	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau
5.4	Intensité d'autocontrôle de la qualité de l'eau rejetée après traitement	Rapport entre le nombre de tests réalisés après traitement et le nombre de tests prévus dans le plan d'autocontrôle de la Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau	%	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau
5.5	Taux d'abattement de la charge polluante	Qualité du processus d'épuration par un pourcentage décrivant la demande chimique en oxygène obtenu par le rapport entre différence entre la charge annuelle (en demande chimique en oxygène - DCO) et la charge annuelle en DCO de l'effluent, et la charge annuelle en DCO de l'influent des stations d'épuration	%	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau
5.6	Tonnes de boues issues des ouvrages d'épuration évacuées selon des filières valorisantes	Tonnes de boues issues des ouvrages d'épuration évacuées selon des filières valorisantes limitées aux boues définies dans indicateurs wA-015 et wA-016 de l'EBC	Nombre	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau

5.7	Tonnes de boues issues des ouvrages d'épuration évacuées selon des filières non valorisantes	Tonnes de boues issues des ouvrages d'épuration évacuées selon des filières non valorisantes limitées aux boues définies dans indicateurs wA-015 et wA-016 de l'EBC	Nombre	Société Bruxelloise de la Gestion de l'Eau
-----	--	---	--------	--

*The 2 urban wastewater treatment plants must comply not only with the requirements of annexe 1.B of Directive 91/271/EEC (BOD, COD, SS, Nt, Pt) but also with the discharge standards in their environmental permit.*

Action 1: *Improvement of the treatment in dry weather conditions (priority action nr. 1.5 of the program of measures in the Brussels management plan 2016-2021)*

*In order to equip the UWWTP 'Brussels South' with a more extensive treatment of nitrogen and phosphorus, major works were started in 2014 to adapt the installations. The works are planned in three phases. The first phase was completed in the summer of 2016. During this phase, a new primary sedimentation plant was put into operation and new infrastructure has been built for the biological and rainstorm street. The 2nd phase consisted of the construction of the biological basins and the membrane filter zone (finished in March 2019). During the last phase 2019-2020, the sludge treatment plant will be modernised (annual report of the SBGE-BMWB, 2016).*

Action 2: *Strengthening the monitoring of sewage treatment plant effluents*

Action 3: *Establishment of tariff methodologies that seek a high level of performance from water operators*

*The tariffs answer to a methodology which has been drawn up in accordance with several guidelines, amongst which "tariffs encourage water operators to improve performance and carry out the research and development necessary for their activities, taking into account in particular their investment plans as approved by the Government and criteria for efficient use of water resources;"*

Action 4: *Yearly description of the quality of the service delivered by the water operators*

*Water operators are required to provide an annual report describing the quality of their service during the previous calendar year.*

*This report shall contain at least the following data :*

*(1) the number, frequency and average duration of interruptions in water supply and sanitation;*

*(2) the nature of the failures and the list of emergency interventions;*

*(3) the time taken to process claims and manage emergency calls;*

*(4) connection and repair times.*

Action 5: *(for the sub-target) : Review the legal framework to identify cases where individual treatment is required.*

- *Modification of an Order to modification of an order to make all individual wastewater treatment plants a classified installation (from the 1st population-equivalent) : finished (april 2019)*
- *Adaptation of the Water framework Ordinance to clarify the sanitation regime and to map the self-sustaining sanitation areas*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target VI.1:</b> Keeping a high level of performance in water supply including continuity of the service, sufficient quantity, good management of the assets.	Action 1: Improvement of the treatment in dry weather conditions	Executed (concerning UWWTP Brussels-south)
	Action 2: Strengthening the monitoring of sewage treatment plant effluents	On going (rate: 6/10)
	Action 3: Establishment of tariff methodologies that seek a high level of performance from water operators	Executed
	Action 4: Yearly description of the quality of the service delivered by the water operators	On going
	Action 5: Review the legal framework to identify cases where individual treatment is required	On going (rate : 5/10) See also Target IV.2 hereabove

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.2 'achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations' and goal nr. 6.3 'by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

N.A

## **VII. Application of recognized good practices to the management of water supply (art. 6, para. 2 (f))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*Catchment areas protection is a requirement since 2002 through the establishment of protection perimeters for the Brussels catchment areas.*

*The Brussels Order of 24 January 2002 concerning the quality and supply of water intended for human consumption states that analyses must be carried out with regard to the quality of the drinking water, which is done within the framework of the legally required control by laboratories recognized by a control authority.*

*The adoption of the European Directive 2015/1787 of 6 October 2015 amending annexes II and III to Directive 98/83 provides a qualitative approach to water distribution based on risk management, but safety management plans are not imposed. They are voluntary for the moment. These plans give the opportunity to water companies for derogation of parameters or/and frequency.*

*Main Target VII.1: Making risk reduction and risk management in drinking water production obliged through water safety plans*

*Target date : January 2023 (within the framework of the review of the Drinking water Directive 98/83)*

*Sub-targets:*

- *Implement the legal protection in protection areas of catchments for drinking water*
- *Promote a sustainable and rational use of water (for domestic use)*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*Action 1 : Ensure the timely transposition of the Drinking Water Directive (recast)*

*With the new directive 2020/2184 of 16 December 2020 on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast), and specifically its articles 7 and 8 on Risk-based approach to water safety and Risk assessment and risk management of the catchment areas for abstraction points of water intended for human consumption, this target VII.1 should be fulfilled.*

*Action 2: Implementation of the Order establishing catchment protection zones*

*In 2017 the Order of 2002 concerning the protection zones of the catchment area was updated. The activities in these zones are better regulated, for example storage tanks of more than 5 000 litres of hydrocarbons should be subjected to more frequently leakage tests. Since 01/01/2016 any use of pesticides is forbidden in the protection zones of the catchment areas. A better control and campaigns of information should be done to ensure the respect of the legal disposals.*

*Action 3 : Making the promotion of sustainable use (included in the 4<sup>th</sup> pillar of actions of the program of measures*

<b>OS 4.2 Promouvoir une utilisation rationnelle et durable de l'eau potable</b>
OO 4.2.1 : Promouvoir une utilisation durable et rationnelle de l'eau à usage domestique
AP 4.2: Promouvoir la consommation d'eau du robinet pour les besoins en eau potable
AP 4.3: Promouvoir les comportements et équipements économes en eau
AP 4.4: Promouvoir les comportements et les équipements utilisant de l'eau non potable (eau de pluie, eau de captage et eau de "2ème circuit")
AP 4.5 : Poursuivre l'installation de compteurs d'eau individuels
OO 4.2.2 Promouvoir le recours à l'eau non potable pour l'usage industriel
AP 4.6: Encourager l'utilisation de l'eau de pluie, de surface, de captage ou de 2ème circuit ("re-use") par les entreprises

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*Actions 2 and 3 above-mentioned are both on-going but the main action/challenge to reach this target will be the further implementation of risk reduction and risk management in drinking water production through the establishment of "Water safety plans" through the transposition of the recast of the "Drinking water directive" (action 1)*

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target VII.1:</b> <i>Make risk reduction and risk management in drinking water production obliged through water safety plans</i>	Action 1 : Ensure the timely transposition of the Drinking Water Directive (recast)	On going (rate: 1/10)
	Action 2: Implementation of the Order establishing catchment protection zones	On going (rate: 6/10)
	Action 3: Making the promotion of sustainable use	On going (rate: 6/10)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.1 'achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all'*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

N.A

## VIII. Application of recognized good practice to the management of sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (f))

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*The Brussels-Capital Region doesn't have a Code of Good practice as it is the case in Flanders but we follow the requirements of Annexe 1 (Part A) of Directive 91/271/EEC : The design, construction and maintenance of collecting systems shall be undertaken in accordance with the best technical knowledge not entailing excessive costs, notably regarding:*

- *Volume and characteristics of urban waste water,*
- *Prevention of leaks,*
- *Limitation of pollution of receiving waters due to storm water overflows.*

*The latter aspect is a key action of the programme of measures for the quality of the surface waterbodies. (see point X hereafter)*

*Target VIII.1: Considering what is mentioned above, a specific target that would be set under the Protocol is to be part of a process of continuous improvement of the sewerage network and purification by the UWWTP.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*Action 1 : Maximize the treatment efficiency of the UWWTP: on-going (permanent obligation of improvement)*

*In accordance with the investments plan of the water operator, the UWWTP of Brussels South has been upgraded to include membrane filtration, which goes beyond the requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC*

*A study must still be carried out to assess the possibility of improvement of the treatment not entailing excessive costs for UWWTP Brussels North.*

*Action 2: Set up a dynamic management of the sewerage network*

*It can be considered as a good practice to put in place a new way of management of the sewerage network through a more intensive use of its existing storage capacity in the sewage and anticipatory regulation of flows in the various networks. This management would have benefits both in terms of reducing flooding and overflows from storm overflows and in terms of better wastewater treatment (less by-pass).*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target VIII.1:</b> <i>Be part of a process of continuous improvement of the sewerage network and purification by the UWWTP</i>	Action 1 : Maximize the treatment efficiency of the UWWTP	On going (rate: 5/10)
	Action 2: Set up a dynamic management of the sewerage network	On going (rate: 2/10)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.2 'achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations'*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

N.A

## IX. Occurrence of discharges of untreated wastewater (art. 6, para. 2 (g) (i))

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

**Main Target IX.1:** *Eliminate direct discharges of pollutants into surface waters*

*The target is the one established in the Gouvernement Act of 23 march 1994 transposing the Directive 91/271/EEC : 100% treatments of urban waste water.*

*The Region is close to this objective but there are still areas that are not sewered collectively, which must therefore be treated individually or cases where the area is equipped with sewers but these are not connected yet to a water treatment plant.*

*The knowledge of the Brussels-capital Region on this bottlenecks is improving and gradually technical solutions are being put in place to prevent waste water from flowing into our rivers.*

*The program of measures of the Brussels Water Management plan includes actions such as:*

- *Treat roads and rails water runoff prior to discharge into the environment;*
- *Manage Domestic Discharges Not Connectable to Collective Sewage Treatment Plants*
- *Eliminate unconnected domestic discharges through an effective connection to the wastewater collection system;*
- *Inform and accompany individuals in their connection to the sewerage system*

- Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*Action 1: Better knowledge on location where discharges of untreated water occur*

*Action 2: Implement a more restrictive legal framework for private connection to sewers;*

*Action 3: Tightening control of wastewater discharges;*

*Action 4: Carrying out connection works to the collection network connection by the operator in charge of the sewerage network and better monitoring of their implementation.*

- Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*All the 4 above-mentioned actions are on-going.*

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target IX.1:</b> Eliminate direct discharges of pollutants into surface waters	Action 1 : Better knowledge on location where discharges of untreated water occur	On going (rate: 8/10)
	Action 2 : Implementation of a more restrictive legal framework for private connection to sewers	On going (rate: 5/10)
	Action 3 : Tightening control of wastewater discharges	On going (rate: 5/10)
	Action 4: Carrying out connection works to the collection network connection by the operator in charge of the sewerage network and better monitoring of their implementation.	On going (rate: 7/10)

- Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*The target here contributes to achieve SDG - goal nr. 6.3 'by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally'.*

- If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

N.A

## X. Occurrence of discharges of untreated storm water overflows from wastewater collection systems (art. 6, para. 2 (g) (ii))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

**Main target X.I:** Reducing the number of m<sup>3</sup> discharged in rivers through the storm overflows.

*This objective is general but is not the subject of a quantified obligation in the legislation.*

*The Brussels-Capital Region hasn't set any target to reduce the occurrence of discharges of untreated wastewater in its legislation. Before setting targets, improvement of our knowledge about this infrastructure was necessary. Brussels Environment conducted a inventory in 2009 of the main combine sewer overflows (CSO's) in the Brussels Region based on data from SBGE and VIVAQUA. As a result, 108 have been identified in the Region. The 42 main ones were selected for a quantification of the charges issued in the emissions inventory. For 7 of them, all of them spilling towards the river Senne, we see that the frequency is too high as well as the volumes discharged (see table from River Basin Management Plan 2016-2021 for Brussels)*

Tableau 6.9 : Nombre de déversements et volumes déversés par an pour les 7 principaux déversoirs vers la Senne.

Unité	Panick	Molenbeek	Beysseghem	Drootbeek	Marly	Zwartbeek	Nouveau Maelbeek
Nombre d'épisodes de déversement séparés de plus d'un jour	37	31	9,5	0	32 / 36	27	49
Volume déversé	1669	1787	140	0	1387 / 250	300	4800

En bleu : Déversements vers la Senne pour la période juin 2008 - Mars 2010 (excepté la période novembre 2009 - janvier 2010, pour éliminer le biais produit par l'arrêt de la STEP Nord durant cette période).

En vert : Campagne de mesure sur les déversoirs d'orage de la Senne en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale, période 2010.

Source : Données Aquiris, calcul Bruxelles Environnement, 2010

Target date to reduce the pollution loads : 2027

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*Action 1: Optimising the functioning of storm overflow weirs*

*The program of measures of the Brussels Water Management plan includes an important action on 'Reducing the pollution loads emitted to the Senne (and other rivers) by the storm overflows by optimising their design and use'. (priority actions nr. 1.3 -1.26 and 1.33 )*

*Although these storm overflows cannot simply be removed as they play an important role in flood mitigation for the sewerage system, their operation can be optimised so that the storage capacity of the sewerage system is fully utilised and consequently the overflows are only activated when there is a real need. In this way, their operating frequency is reduced as much as possible. In the same way, the weirs can be equipped with floating material barriers to*

*retain these elements in the sewer and send them to the treatment plant rather than to the surface waters of the Region (the Senne, the Canal or the Woluwe)*

*Action 2: Set up a dynamic management of the sewerage network*

*As set up in Target VIII.1 hereabove, a new way of management in the sewerage network will have positive consequences in terms of reducing the number of spills into the natural environment. This requires the implementation of remote control of mobile valves strategically placed in the sewer network as well as hydraulic forecasting tools.*

*Action 3 : Implement integrated rainwater management*

*Another action (strategy) included in the Water management plan of the Brussels Capital region tackles the cause of the problem, that of excess rainwater in the sewerage network, by implementing, in the catchment areas, integrated rainwater management ( "GIEP" in French), which valorises and retains rainwater on the receiving plots instead of returning it to the sewerage system.*

**3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.**

*The Brussels-Capital Region launched study and improvement works on the use of stormwater overflows aiming at the reduction of their frequency of activation.*

*The works on their adaptation are now on-going.*

*(update February 2021)*

*Brussels Environment and water operators have launched the first projects to limit these discharges through stormwater overflows. European funding from the LIFE project has also been obtained for the implementation of certain actions. One of the actions of the transregional LIFE Belini project aims - among other things - in Brussels to adjust and equip the 3 most important stormwater overflows: the New Maelbeek, the Paruck and the Molenbeek in order to limit their spills.*

*The development studies have already been carried out on the Paruck and the New Maelbeek thanks to the joint action of the wateroperators SBGE (telemetry network), Vivaqua (clean-up and works) and Brussels Environment (studies and submission of the Life Belini project). The developments in New Maelbeek have been completed since June 2020 and are being monitored. The scale of the spills has been halved, but monitoring must continue, as longer periods are needed to cover the different types of rainy events and to obtain a reliable figure. The operation of the Paruck has already been partially reviewed, making it possible, at this stage, to already halve the operating time of the spillway. However, Vivaqua is planning further improvements to go even further. The study of the Molenbeek spillway began in June 2020 with the installation of flow sensors.*

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target X.1:</b> Reducing the number of m <sup>3</sup> discharged in rivers through the storm overflows	Action 1 : Optimising the functioning of storm overflow weirs	On going (rate: 4/10)
	Action 2 : Set up a dynamic management of the sewerage network	On going (rate: 2/10)
	Action 3 : Implement integrated rainwater management	On going (rate: 2/10)
	Action 4: Carrying out connection works to the collection network connection by the operator in charge of the sewerage network and better monitoring of their implementation.	On going (rate: 7/10)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*The target here contributes to achieve SDG - goal nr. 6.3 'by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A*

## **XI. Quality of discharges of wastewater from wastewater treatment installations (art. 6, para. 2 (h))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*The quality of discharged wastewater from the collective treatment plants is already been treated in part VI. The quality of industrial wastewater rejected by companies is treated here. In the Brussels Region, classified installations are regulated by environmental permit legislation. The environmental permit integrates all the required environmental authorizations into a single permit. Any company that discharges industrial wastewater is obliged to have an environmental permit which includes discharge conditions.*

*The legislation divides the facilities and activities into three classes according to the importance of their impact on people and the environment.*

*In addition, the WFD 2000/60/EC requires the program of measures to include measures related to the implementation of other Directives, including:*

- the Directive 2010/75 / EU 'IED' industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control - recasting of the IPPC Directive);*
- Council Directive 91/271 / EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment (ERU).*

**Main target XI.1:** *Better control discharges from industries*

Target date : *on-going*

Sub-target : *reinforce the discharges standards*

Sub-target date : *2021*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*- The program of measures of the Brussels Water Management plan includes action to reach the target:*

- Update the legal framework to reinforce the protection of the watercourses (priority action nr. 1.8);*
- Understand and quantify the waste water through the environmental permits; (priority action nr. 1.1)*
- Ensure a control on the respect of the standards to discharge in surface waters and sewers (priority action nr. 1.12)*

*- Transposition of the Directive 2010/75: Order of the Government of the Brussels-Capital of 21/11/2013 on the integrated prevention and reduction of pollution from industrial emissions.*

*In the Brussels-Capital Region almost no company discharges into surface water as almost all wastewater is collectively collected and treated in one of the two UWWTP of Brussels Region.*

*In addition, companies are subject to a sanitation price, calculated on the basis of the polluting load of industrial wastewater discharged (reviewed in 2019 to focus on quantity discharges).*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target XI.1:</b> Better control discharges from industries	Action 1 : Update the legal framework (the discharge' conditions)	Not started yet
	Action 2 : Understand and quantify the waste water through the environmental permits	On going (rate: 5/10)

	<hr/> Action 3 : Control on the respect of the standards to discharge in surface waters and sewers <hr/>	On going (rate: 5/10)
	Action 4: Transposition and implementation of the Directive on integrated prevention and reduction of pollution from industrial emissions*	Executed And On going (rate: 7/10)

*\*Concerning this last action 4, the "IED" Directive specifies that permit conditions must be defined on the basis of best available techniques, identified, re-examined and, where appropriate, updated at European level. The IED Directive also specifies the planning, scheduling and reporting conditions to be observed when carrying out environmental inspections*

*The inspection division of Brussels Environment is responsible for monitoring compliance with the environmental permits of IED companies (ex-IPPC companies). 12 companies are registered as IED companies (according to annex 1 of the directive) in the Brussels Region.*

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*The target here contributes to achieve SDG - goal nr. 6.3 'by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

## **XII. Disposal or reuse of sewage sludge from collective systems of sanitation or other sanitation installations (art. 6, para. 2 (i))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*N.A.*

*No target set for the Brussels-Capital Region. The operators of the UWWTP are required to ensure that the sludge is valorised.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*During the last phase of upgrading the UWWTP Brussels South (2019-2020), the sludge treatment plant will be modernised (annual report of the SBGE-BMWB, 2016).*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

N.A.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

N.A.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*A regulatory framework exists for reuse in agriculture (Act of 15 July 1993) but not applicable on the Brussels's territory where agriculture is marginal. Valorisation is made outside the Region (construction sector..) after production of biogas on site.*

### **XIII. Quality of wastewater used for irrigation purposes (art. 6, para. 2 (i))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

N.A.

*No target set for the Brussels-Capital Region.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

N.A.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

N.A.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

N.A.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*Agriculture is marginal in the Brussels Region: the total area of agricultural land is 268 hectares, or 1.6 per cent of the territory.*

*The Brussels Capital region will make application of the European regulation to come (2020) on minimum requirements for quality of water reuse but especially for industrial purposes.*

### **XIV. Quality of waters which are used as sources for drinking water (art. 6, para. 2 (j))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

**Target XIV.1** : Designation of specific areas for bodies of ground water used as a source of drinking water

According to a disposal in the legal framework for the water policy in Brussels, the Government shall ensure the necessary protection of the water bodies identified or the production of water intended for human consumption in order to prevent deterioration in their quality and to reduce the degree of purification treatment required for the drinking water production (article 36, § 3 of Ordinance of 20 October 2006) . This action is only applicable for groundwaters because no surface waters are used as sources of drinking water in Brussels.

This may be possible by the designation of specific areas (drinking water protection zones), stricter environmental standards and restrictions on the use function apply. In the drinking water protection zones, various activities with a risk to affect the quality of the groundwater, are prohibited in the zones or are more strictly regulated. The legal framework exists in Brussels-Capital region : Order of the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region of 19 September 2002 delimiting the protection zones for groundwater catchments in the Bois de la Cambre and the Drève de Lorraine in the Soignes forest.

Brussels-Capital Region imports more than 97% of the water intended for human consumption from Wallonia. Only a little 3% of the water consumed in Brussels comes from resources situated in its groundwater but this aspect of raw water quality is important when we know that the waterbody used for abstraction (Brusselian's Sand (Br05)) is subject to many pressures and was assessed at the end of 2012 in a poor chemical status in terms of nitrates, total pesticides, certain specific pesticides (atrazine desisopropyl, 2,6 dichlorobenzamide (BAM)) and tetrachloroethylene based on the analysis of data from the chemical status monitoring programme covering the period from 2010 to the end of 2012. A new monitoring campaign must be carried out to see if this observation is still valid or if the actions put in place are improving the situation.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

As stated under 1, drinking water protection zones exist and activities within these zones are strictly regulated. A review of the conditions and permitted installations in these zones have been done in February 2017.

The program of measures of the Brussels Water Management plan includes several actions to ensure a good quality management of groundwater bodies:

**AP 1.49: Réduire les concentrations en nitrates d'origine non agricole en assurant la rénovation du réseau d'égouttage**

**AP 1.50: Réduire les concentrations en nitrates d'origine non agricole dans la masse d'eau en étendant le réseau d'égouttage ou en prévoyant des mesures alternatives lorsque l'extension n'est technique et/ou économiquement pas réalisable**

**AP 1.51 : Eliminer les puits perdus existants**

**AP 1.52: Réduire les apports de pesticides dans la masse d'eau**

**AP 1.53: Interdire les rejets directs dans la masse d'eau souterraine**

**AP 1.54: Réduire les rejets indirects dans la masse d'eau souterraine**

AP 1.55: Prévenir et gérer les pollutions accidentelles dans la masse d'eau et en priorité dans les zones de protection des captages destinés à la consommation humaine.

AP 1.56: Limiter l'impact des sols pollués sur la qualité de la masse d'eau souterraine

AP 1.61: Assurer un contrôle adéquat des eaux souterraines en zone de protection des captages d'eau destinée à la consommation humaine

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target XIV.1:</b> Designation of specific areas for bodies of ground water used as a source of drinking water	Action 1 : Adapting the legal framework to allow this protection	Executed
	Action 2 : Revise the conditions in environmental permits to require better protection	On going (rate: 5/10)
	Action 3 : Communicate more and control the protection as a necessity to respect groundwaters	On going (rate: 3/10)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*This target contributes to fulfilling the targets defined under SDG 6 « Clean Water and Sanitation ». It contributes especially to goal nr. 6.1 'achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all' and goal nr. 6.2 'achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

## **XV. Quality of waters used for bathing (art. 6, para. 2 (j))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*No target on this topic were set in 2019.*

However, since then, the Agreement text of the Government 2019-2024 foresees that it will support permanent or temporary outdoor swimming pool projects.

The Brussels Environment Agency with the support of an association is setting up the legal and technical framework to allow natural bathing in a pond, possibly replicable later on in other places.

**New target XV.1 : Allowing natural bathing in natura surface waters**

The legal framework is set by the transposition in 2009 of the Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality (Order of the Brussels Government of 23 April 2009).

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

Action 1: Leading a legal assessment to authorise this type of bathing in ponds, focusing on the responsibility of the pond manager

Action 2: Carry out a test phase to assess the technical and practical feasibility of swimming in a pond.

Action 3: Designate bathing water(s), carry out monitoring and quality assessments according to Directive 2006/7/EC

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target XV.1:</b> Allowing natural bathing in natural surface waters	Action 1 : Leading a legal assessment to authorise this type of bathing in ponds, focusing on the responsibility of the pond manager	Executed (the assessment has been carried out but still needs to be refined on certain issues)
	Action 2 : Carry out a test phase to assess the technical and practical feasibility of swimming in a pond.	Executed (but needs to be repeated in order to be able to draw reliable conclusions).
	Action 3 : Designate bathing water(s), carry out monitoring and quality assessments according to Directive 2006/7/EC	Not started yet (depending on actions 1 and 2)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

N.A.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*The Brussels Region has not yet officially designated any bathing areas to date. When it will be the case, the Region must be compliant with all the requirements of Directive 2006/7/EC.*

## **XVI. Quality of waters used for aquaculture or for the production or harvesting of shellfish (art. 6, para. 2 (j))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*Not applicable in Brussels-Capital Region.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*N.A.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*N.A.*

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*N.A.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A. No such aquaculture or production on the Brussels region's territory.*

## **XVII. Application of recognized good practice in the management of enclosed waters generally available for bathing (art. 6, para. 2 (k))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*Main target: Ensure a good quality of enclosed water to prevent health risk and allow swimming in good conditions.*

*Target date: on-going (permanent obligation) but updating the regulation is foreseen to be finished by the end of 2022.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*All baths are subject to permit and are covered by the Brussels legislation (Order of the Government of 10 October 2002 setting operating conditions for swimming pools). All types*

*of baths with the exception of baths attached to private houses that are not open to public are in the scope. This Order includes regulations for safety, supervision and first aid, water quality and water treatment, sanitation, periodic and continuous monitoring and checks.*

*The baths that are subject to permit include all institutions mentioned in Section 14 of the list of classified establishments. The permit specifies, in addition to the legislation, conditions for safe storage of dangerous products.*

*At least once a year, a control of the presence of Legionella Pneumophylla (enumeration) is carried out by an approved laboratory at the shower facilities.*

*To meet this objective, the Brussels-Capital Region will revise the above-mentioned regulation on swimming pools. The main objective is to update it and to impose best practices on pool operators as a result of developments in knowledge and techniques.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target XVII.1:</b> Ensure a good quality of enclosed water to prevent health risk and allow swimming in good conditions.	Action 1 : Adapting the legal framework to allow this protection	On going (1/10)

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*N.A.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

## **XVIII. Identification and remediation of particularly contaminated sites (art. 6, para. 2 (I))**

*For each target set in this area:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

**Target XVIII.1:** *Manage, protect and remediate polluted soils*

*In 2004, the first Ordinance on the management, the protection and remediation of soil in the Brussels-Capital Region has become a legal obligation. The Ordinance aims to prevent the appearance of soil pollution, to identify potential sources of pollution, to organize soil surveys and to determine the methods of remediation and management of polluted soils.*

*Target date : insofar as the implementation of this legal framework depends on real estate transfers/transactions, this target is permanent.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

Action 1: Provide an appropriate legal framework for polluted soils

*In 2019, an overall strategy to improve the management and protection of soils has been developed. The aim is to protect and improve soil properties by actively combating threats (erosion, pollution, compaction, loss of organic matter and biodiversity). Thanks to this new approach, soils can be considered as a complete entity providing services to the environment and to our society.*

*Different Orders have been published in order to :*

- \* provide a standard content of soil certificates (and to set out the terms and conditions for requesting, issuing and paying for the soil certificates.) (2017)*
- \* establish the list of risk activities likely to cause soil pollution (2015).*
- \* set out the intervention standards which are pollutant concentrations of soil and groundwater above which the risks to human health and / or the environment are considered to be not insignificant and a pollution treatment is required, and sanitation standards that represent concentrations of soil and groundwater pollutants under which risks to human health and the environment are considered to be zero, and which allow the soil to fill all functions (2018).*
- \* provide for the granting, under certain conditions, of premiums for soil studies and orphan pollution treatment works. (2018)*

Action 2: Financing of works for the remediation and management of contaminated soils

*Under certain conditions, a premium can be granted for an exploratory soil investigation, a detailed investigation, a risk investigation, a remediation proposal (limited) or a risk management proposal, a final assessment and remediation or risk management works.*

Action 3: Public treatment to rehabilitate certain sites

*The Region wants to provide a sustainable financial instrument to initiate research and treatment of soil pollution. Public treatment will give the possibility, in certain cases and under certain conditions, to take the place of the obligation holders. Only orphan pollution will be subject to public treatment.*

Action 4: Dredging of the rivers and preventing groundwater pollution from polluted soils

*Historical works in different phases : since winter 2014 to summer 2016. Intervention still needed in a small portion of the culverted river.*

*For surface water, the program of measures of the Water Management Plan for Brussels includes a specific action to remove polluted sediments in the Senne river:*

**AP 1.10: Réaliser le curage de la Senne pour enlever les polluants (PCB, diphényléthers bromés, phosphore) contenus dans les boues «historiques»**

*For groundwaters, this program includes:*

**AP 1.60: Prévenir l'impact des sols pollués sur la qualité de la masse d'eau souterraine**

Identifier et cartographier les sols pollués pouvant avoir une incidence sur la qualité de la masse d'eau souterraine

Evaluer les risques de transfert de pollution vers la masse d'eau souterraine lors de l'étude de risque

- Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Target	Action	Status of implementation
<b>Target XVIII.1:</b> Manage, protect and remediate polluted soils	Action 1 : Provide an appropriate legal framework for polluted soils	Executed
	Action 2 : Financing of works for the remediation and management of contaminated soils	On going
	Action 3: Public treatment to rehabilitate certain sites	Not started yet (planned for 2021)
	Action 4 : Dredging of the rivers and preventing groundwater pollution from polluted soils	On going (rate: 9/10 for rivers / 6/10 for groundwaters)

*As a challenge, the prevention through environmental permits' conditions can be mentioned.*

- Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*N.A.*

- If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

### **XIX. Effectiveness of systems for the management, development, protection and use of water resources (art. 6, para. 2 (m))**

*For each target set in this area:*

- Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*The targets are those required by the Water Framework Directive concerning the management of water resources. The Brussels-Capital Region is therefore under the obligation to achieve the environmental objectives imposed by this directive for surface waterbodies, groundwater bodies and protected areas.*

**Main target XIX:** *Reaching the good status for groundwater and surface water bodies*

**Target date :** *December 2021 (+ time-extension up to 2027)*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*The requirements of the Water Framework Directive must be met by the program of measures of the River basin management Plan (as already mentioned above).*

*For Brussels-Capital Region, this program is divided in 8 main lines of action ('axes'), all of which relate directly or indirectly to water management. The first is to improve the quality of surface and groundwater, including that intended to be captured for use for human consumption. In this first axe, we find measures such as the actions mentioned in sections IX and X here above to avoid wastewater discharges in watercourses or the reduction of diffuse pollution of the groundwater by pesticides. A link is done with the regional plan for reduction of pesticides. The reduction of the pollution of groundwater by reducing excessive leaching of nutrients into the soil and the groundwater is also part of this axis.*

*The second pillar is also of great importance. It aims to preserve water resources in terms of quantity: reconnection of the hydrographic network, groundwater management (piezometric and catchment monitoring).*

*The third pillar is economic to ensure compliance with the principles of 'cost recovery for waterservices' and 'polluter pays'.*

*The 4th encourages rational water management and consumption behaviours.*

*The 5th includes measures to prevent and manage flood risks (according to the directive 2007/60/EC).*

*The 6th axis is also important and should be linked to the Water and Health Protocol insofar as it aims to strengthen the place of water in the urban environment, with all the benefits that this implies (environmental, well-being,...)*

*The 7th and 8th axes are further away from the objectives of the Protocol in that they aim, on the one hand, at the production of renewable energy from water (geothermal, riothermal), and on the other hand, at strengthening coordination at the level of the international hydrographic district of the Scheldt that the Brussels Capital Region shares with France, Wallonia, Flanders and the Netherlands.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*As we take a look at the status of the water quality in 2004 and the one reflected in the last monitoring reports, we can assess a significant progress in enhancing the quality of waters (see also Part Three, point V of this report).*

*However, the Brussels-Capital Region has to pursue its actions to improve the quality of its rivers and of the groundwater as a resource.*

*Among these actions, we can mention:*

**AP 1.2 : Diminuer la mise sous pression du réseau d'égouttage par temps de pluie**

- AP 1.3 : Diminuer les charges polluantes émises vers la Senne [et dans les autres rivières] par les déversoirs en optimisant leur conception et leur utilisation
- AP 1.5 : Augmenter le rendement épuratoire des stations d'épuration par temps sec
- AP 1.6 : Identifier les rejets et sources de polluants
- AP 1.9 : Traiter les eaux de ruissellement des voiries et des voies ferrées avant rejet
- AP 1.10 : Réaliser le curage de la Senne pour enlever les polluants contenus dans les boues historiques (PCB, diphénylèthers bromés, phosphore)
- AP 1.11 : Informer et sensibiliser les entreprises concernant leurs obligations légales en matière de rejets d'eaux usées
- AP 1.12 : Assurer un contrôle réglementaire sur le respect des normes de rejet en eaux de surface et en égout
- AP 1.14 : Gérer les rejets domestiques non raccordables aux stations d'épuration collectives (STEPi)
- AP 1.15 : Supprimer les rejets domestiques non raccordés par le biais d'un raccordement effectif au réseau de collecte des eaux usées
- AP 1.16 : Informer et accompagner les particuliers dans leur raccordement à l'égout
- AP 1.17 : Améliorer la qualité des affluents de la Senne
- AP 1.19 : Remettre la Senne à ciel ouvert
- AP 1.20 : Améliorer la qualité des berges de la Senne [et des autres rivières]
- AP 1.21 : Garantir la libre circulation des poissons dans les rivières
- AP 1.22 : Aménager des zones propices au développement de la faune et de la flore aquatiques
- AP 1.23 : Définir et assurer un débit et une hauteur d'eau minimaux pour la Senne
- AP 1.26 : Diminuer les charges polluantes émises vers la Woluwe par les déversoirs en optimisant leur conception et leur utilisation
- AP 1.34 : Assurer la propreté du Canal par élimination des déchets solides
- AP 1.36 : Diminuer les quantités de sédiments dans le Canal et contrôler la qualité des sédiments
- AP 1.39 : Créer des petites zones "de littoral" qui pourraient être favorables aux macrophytes et aux macro-invertébrés
- AP 1.49 : Réduire les concentrations de nitrates d'origine non agricole dans les masses d'eau souterraine en assurant la rénovation du réseau d'égouttage
- AP 1.50 : Réduire les concentrations de nitrates d'origine non agricole dans les masses d'eau souterraine en étendant le réseau d'égouttage ou en prévoyant des mesures alternatives lorsque l'extension n'est techniquement et/ou économiquement pas réalisable
- AP 1.51 : Eliminer les puits perdus existants
- AP 1.52 : Réduire les apports de pesticides dans les masses d'eau souterraine
- AP 1.53 : Interdire les rejets directs dans les masses d'eau souterraine
- AP 1.54 : Réduire les rejets indirects dans les masses d'eau souterraine
- AP 1.55 : Prévenir et gérer les pollutions accidentelles dans les masses d'eau souterraine et en priorité dans les zones de protection de captage d'eau destinée à la consommation humaine
- AP 1.56 : Limiter l'impact des sols pollués sur la qualité des masses d'eau souterraine (assainir les sols pollués)
- AP 1.61 : Assurer un contrôle adéquat des eaux souterraines en zone de protection des captages d'eau destinée à la consommation humaine
- AP 1.62 : Assurer la protection des zones vulnérables aux nitrates d'origine agricole
- AP 1.63 : Assurer une protection et une gestion des masses d'eau situées dans les sites Natura 2000, les réserves naturelles et les réserves forestières en adéquation avec les objectifs de conservation des sites : protection des espèces aquatiques et restauration des milieux humides
- AP 1.64 : Veiller à la protection des zones sensibles à l'égard des nutriments
- AP 1.65 : Veiller à la protection des zones sensibles à risques accrus et des zones tampons à l'égard des pesticides

*Most of them are on-going.*

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*The target here contributes to achieve SDG - goal nr. 6.3 'by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally'.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*N.A.*

## **XX. Additional national or local specific targets**

*In cases where additional targets have been set, for each target:*

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

*N.A.*

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

*N.A.*

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

*N.A.*

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

*N.A.*

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

*No specific other target that comes into the scope of the Protocol can be pointed out.*

## **Part three Common indicators<sup>1</sup>**

### **I. Quality of the drinking water supplied**

#### **1. Context of the data**

1. What is the population coverage (in millions or per cent of total national population) of the water supplies reported under sections 2 and 3 below?

---

<sup>1</sup> In order to allow an analysis of trends for all Parties under the Protocol, please use wherever possible 2005 — the year of entry into force of the Protocol — as the baseline year.

The rationale of this question is to understand the population coverage of the water quality data reported under sections 2 and 3 below.

Please describe the type of water supplies for which data is included in the following tables, and the population share covered by these supplies.

Please also clarify the source of the water quality data provided (e.g., data from regulatory authorities).

**(BRUSSELS REGION)**

The total population in 2017 was 1,2 million. 100 % of the population is covered by a public water supply.

The water quality data provided in the tables below are based on information obtained from the only public water supplier in the Brussels Region.

2. Please specify from where the water quality samples reported in sections 2 and 3 below are primarily taken (e.g., treatment plant outlet, distribution system or point of consumption).

The rationale of this question is to understand where the samples were primarily taken from for the water quality data reported in sections 2 and 3 below.

According to the drinking water directive, the samples are taken at the point of consumption (kitchen tap).

3. In sections 2 and 3 below, the standards for compliance assessment signify the national standards. If national standards for reported parameters deviate from the World Health Organization (WHO) guideline values, please provide information on the standard values.

The standards for drinking water quality from the EU 98/83 were used.

**2.Bacteriological quality**

4. Please indicate the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). Parties may also report on up to three other priority microbial indicators and/or pathogens that are subject to routine water quality monitoring.

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” water supplies or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the column “area/category” in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

Parameter	Area/category	Baseline value (2005)	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2014)	Current value (2017)
<i>E. coli</i>	Total	0%	0 %	0 %
	Urban	0 %	0 %	0 %

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/category</i>	<i>Baseline value (2005)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2014)</i>	<i>Current value (2017)</i>
	Rural	/	/	/
Additional parameter 1: <i>Enterococci</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>0,77 %</b>	<b>2,15 %</b>	<b>0,82 %</b>
	Urban	0,77 %	2,15 %	0,82 %
	Rural	/	/	/
Additional parameter 2:	<b>Total</b>			
	Urban			
	Rural			
Additional parameter 3:	<b>Total</b>			
	Urban			
	Rural			

### 3. Chemical quality

5. Please report on the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for chemical water quality with regard to the following parameters:

- (a) Arsenic;
- (b) Fluoride;
- (c) Lead
- (d) Nitrate.

6. Please also identify up to three additional chemical parameters that are of priority in the national or local context.

*If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” sanitation systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the column “area/category” in the table below accordingly.*

*If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.*

*Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.*

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/category</i>	<i>Baseline value (2005)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2014)</i>	<i>Current value (2017)</i>
Arsenic	<b>Total</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>
	Urban	0 %	0 %	0 %
	Rural	/	/	/

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/category</i>	<i>Baseline value (2005)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2014)</i>	<i>Current value (2017)</i>
Fluoride	<b>Total</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>
	Urban	0 %	0 %	0 %
	Rural	/	/	/
Lead	<b>Total</b>	<b>0,92 %</b>	<b>29,31 %</b>	<b>10,64 %</b>
	Urban	0,92 %	29,31 %	10,64 %
	Rural	/	/	/
Nitrate	<b>Total</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>
	Urban	0 %	0 %	0 %
	Rural	/	/	/
Additional parameter 1: pesticides	<b>Total</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>
	Urban	0 %	0 %	0 %
	Rural	/	/	/
Additional parameter 2: trihalomethanes	<b>Total</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>0 % (2014)</b>	<b>0 % (2017)</b>
	Urban	0 %	0 % (2014)	0 % (2017)
	Rural	/	/	/

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/category</i>	<i>Baseline value (2005)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2014)</i>	<i>Current value (2017)</i>
Additional parameter 3: <b>Sodium (Na)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,18%</b>	<b>0 % (2014)</b>	<b>0 % (2017)</b>
	Urban	1,18%	0 % (2014)	0 % (2017)
	Rural	/	/	/

## II. Outbreaks and incidence of infectious diseases related to water

*In filling out the below table, please consider the following points:*

(a) *For reporting outbreaks, please report confirmed water-related outbreaks only (i.e., for which there is epidemiological or microbiological evidence for water to have facilitated infection);*

(b) *For reporting incidents, please report the numbers related to all exposure routes. In your response:*

(i) *Please report cases per 100,000 population;*

(ii) *Please differentiate between zero incidents (0) and no data available (-).*

*Please extend the list of water-related diseases, to the extent possible, to cover other relevant pathogens (e.g., enteric viruses, Giardia intestinalis, Vibrio cholerae).*

*Please indicate how the information is collected (e.g., event-based or incidence-based surveillance).*

*Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.*

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Incidence rate per 100,000 population (all exposure routes)</i>			<i>Number of outbreaks (confirmed water-borne outbreaks)</i>		
	<i>Baseline (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>	<i>Baseline (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
Shigellosis						
Enterohaemorrhagic <i>E. coli</i> infection						
Typhoid fever						
Viral hepatitis A						
Legionellosis						
Cryptosporidiosis						
Additional disease 1:						
Additional disease 2:						
Additional disease 3:						

### III. Access to drinking water

*If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” water supply systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.*

*If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.*

*Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data with regard to access to drinking water.*

<i>Percentage of population with access to drinking water</i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2014)</i>	<i>Current value (2017)</i>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>
Urban		100 %	100 %
Rural		/	/

Estimates provided by the WHO/United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation. *JMP definitions are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/definitions-methods/watsan-categories>.*

National estimates. *Please specify how “access” is defined and what types of drinking-water supplies are considered in the estimates in your country.*

*In particular, please specify if the above percentage on “access to drinking water” refers to access to (tick all applicable):*

- Improved drinking water sources (as per JMP definition)
- Supplies located on premises
- Supplies available when needed
- Supplies that provide drinking water free from faecal contamination

### IV. Access to sanitation

*If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” sanitation systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.*

*If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.*

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data with regard to access to sanitation. 98,3% chiffres PGE collectés.

As the Brussels-Capital Region is totally urban, we made a distinction between collective ('centralized') and individual ('non-centralized') sanitation. The collective sanitation covers 98% of the population, the 2% left are not equipped with a sewage network. It is estimated that 99.8% of the pollutant load is collected for treatment in wastewater treatment plants.

Percentage of population with access to sanitation	Baseline value (specify year)	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	Current value (specify year)
<b>Total</b>			
Centralized		n.a	98%
non-centralized		n.a	2%

- Estimates provided by JMP. JMP definitions are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/definitions-methods/watsan-categories>.
- National estimates. Please specify how "access" is defined and what types of sanitation facilities are considered in the estimates in your country.

In particular, please specify if the above percentage on "access to sanitation" refers to access to (tick all applicable):

- Improved sanitation facilities (as per JMP definition)
- Facilities not shared with other households
- Facilities from which excreta is safely disposed in situ or treated off site

## V. Effectiveness of management, protection and use of freshwater resources

### 1. Water quality

1. On the basis of national systems of water classification, please indicate the percentage of water bodies or the percentage of the volume (preferably) of water<sup>2</sup> falling under each defined class (e.g., for European Union countries and other countries following the European Union Water Framework Directive<sup>3</sup> classification, the percentage of surface waters of high, good, moderate, poor and bad ecological status, and the percentage of groundwater's/surface waters of good or poor chemical status; for other countries, in classes I, II, III, etc.).

<sup>2</sup> Please specify.

<sup>3</sup> Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.

(a) **For European Union countries and other countries following the European Union Water Framework Directive classification**

(i) *Ecological status of surface water bodies*

<i>Percentage of surface water classified as:</i>	<i>Baseline value (2009)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (2012)</i>
High status	0%	n.a	0%
Good status	0%	n.a	0%
Moderate status	0%	n.a	33%
Poor status	66%	n.a	33%
Bad status	33%	n.a	33%
<b>Total number/volume of water bodies classified</b>			
<b>Total number/volume of water bodies in the country</b>			

(ii) *Chemical status of surface water bodies*

<i>Percentage of surface water bodies classified as</i>	<i>Baseline value (2009)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (2012)</i>
Good status	0%	n.a	0%
Poor status	100%	n.a	100%
<b>Total number/volume of water bodies classified</b>			
<b>Total number/volume of water bodies in the country</b>			

(iii) *Status of groundwaters*

<i>Percentage of groundwaters classified as</i>	<i>Baseline value (2009)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (2012r)</i>
Good quantitative status	100%	n.a	100%
Good chemical status	80%	n.a	80%
Poor quantitative status	0%	n.a	0%
Poor chemical status	20%	n.a	20%
<b>Total number/volume of groundwater bodies classified</b>			
<b>Total number/volume of groundwater bodies in the country</b>			

(b) **For other countries**

(i) *Status of surface waters*

<i>Percentage of surface water falling under class<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
I			

<i>Percentage of surface water falling under class<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
II			
III			
IV			
V			
<b>Total number/volume of water bodies classified</b>			
<b>Total number/volume of water bodies in the country</b>			

<sup>a</sup> Rename and modify the number of rows to reflect the national classification system.

(ii) *Status of groundwaters*

<i>Percentage of groundwaters falling under class<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
I			
II			
III			
IV			
V			
<b>Total number/volume of groundwater bodies classified</b>			
<b>Total number/volume of groundwater bodies in the country</b>			

<sup>a</sup> Rename and modify the number of rows to reflect the national classification system.

- Please provide any other information that will help put into context and aid understanding of the information provided above (e.g., coverage of information provided if not related to all water resources, how the quality of waters affects human health).

## 2. Water use

- Please provide information on the water exploitation index at the national and river basin levels for each sector (agriculture, industry, domestic), i.e., the mean annual abstraction of freshwater by sector divided by the mean annual total renewable freshwater resource at the country level, expressed in percentage terms.

### Figures for the Brussels-Capital Region (value 2019 based on 2010-2017 averages)

<i>Water exploitation index</i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (2019)</i>
Agriculture	0,02%	n.a	0,22%
Industry	3,18%	n.a	2,13%

<i>Water exploitation index</i>	<i>Value reported in the</i>		
	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (2019)</i>
Domestic use <sup>b</sup>	10,18%	n.a	6,40%

<sup>a</sup> Please specify whether the figure includes both water abstraction for manufacturing industry and for energy cooling. Yes, both

<sup>b</sup> Please specify whether the figure only refers to public water supply systems or also to individual supply systems (e.g., wells). both

*Mean annual total renewable freshwater resource in Brussels-Capital Region : 32.106.430m<sup>3</sup>/year*

*Infiltration is the feed parameter :*

- 1. application of Wetspass model (VUB, 2007) for the quantification of the average infiltration (arithmetic) over the period 1833 - 1975.*
- 2. Application of an annual coefficient applied to WETSPASS 1833 - 1975 infiltration for the calculation of the annual average infiltration 2010- 2017 and calculation of the arithmetic mean of the annual average infiltrations.*

*Addition of groundwater flow for the captive groundwater table of the Landénien calculated using the Hydroland 1.0 hydrogeological model based on 2013 inflow data.*

*For the baseline value, the period considered was 2000-2005..*

## **Part four**

### **Water-related disease surveillance and response systems**

- In accordance with the provisions of article 8 of the Protocol:

Has your country established comprehensive water-related disease surveillance and early warning systems according to paragraph 1 (a)?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

Has your country prepared comprehensive national or local contingency plans for responses to outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease according to paragraph 1 (b)?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

Do relevant public authorities have the necessary capacity to respond to such outbreaks, incidents or risks in accordance with the relevant contingency plan according to paragraph 1 (c)?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

2. If yes or in progress, please provide summary information about key elements of the water-related disease surveillance and outbreak response systems (e.g., identification of water-related disease outbreaks and incidents, notification, communication to the public, data management and reporting). Please also provide reference to existing national legislation and/or regulations addressing water-related disease surveillance and outbreak response.

3. Please describe what actions have been taken in your country in the past three years to improve and/or sustain water-related disease surveillance, early warning systems and contingency plans, as well as to strengthen the capacity of public authorities to respond to

water-related disease outbreaks and incidents, in accordance with the provisions of article 8 of the Protocol.

## **Part five**

### **Progress achieved in implementing other articles of the Protocol**

Please provide a short description of the status of implementation of articles 9 to 14 of the Protocol, as relevant.

*Suggested length: up to two pages*

*For Brussels-Capital Region:*

- *In accordance with Article 12 of the Water and Health Protocol, the Brussels-Capital Region has included an **international cooperation objective** in the legal framework of its water policy. An “International Solidarity Fund” has been set up and is funded by the water supplier's income (€0.005 per m<sup>3</sup> distributed). Four editions of calls for development aid projects related to the water sector were launched on this basis, financing with a global budget of €1,197,925 some 20 projects aimed at improving access to drinking water and adequate sanitation in developing countries, ensuring a fight against water-related diseases.*

*The Region wishes, through the co-financing of cooperation projects, to contribute to the achievement of objective nr.6 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, namely "to guarantee access for all to water and sanitation for all and to ensure sustainable management of water resources" by 2030. The main objectives of this 6th objective are to:*

  - *ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water;*
  - *Ensure equitable access for all to adequate sanitation and hygiene services and end open defecation, with particular attention to the needs of women and girls and people in vulnerable situations;*
  - *improve water quality by halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and significantly increasing safe water recycling and reuse worldwide;*
  - *increase the rational use of water resources; and*
  - *support and strengthen the participation of the local population in improving water and sanitation management.*
- *In accordance with Articles 13 and 14 of the Water & Health Protocol, and as required by the Directive 2000/60/EEC (Water Framework Directive, WFD), a cross-border coordination must be established. A international agreement signed in Gent in 2002 between France, Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels-Capital Region, Federal authority of Belgium and the Netherlands assigns this coordination in the implementation of the WFD to the International Scheldt Commission. The prevention and fight against water-related diseases are not at the heart of this coordination, but in a more general way, the quality of water resources sought by the Parties to this international agreement indirectly participates in it. (for more details on this point, see the contribution of Flanders)*

## Part six

### Thematic part linked to priority areas of work under the Protocol

#### 1. Water, sanitation and hygiene in institutional settings

1. In the table below, please provide information on the proportion of schools (primary and secondary) and health-care facilities that provide basic water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

*Basic services refer to the following:*

(a) *Basic sanitation service: Improved facilities (according to JMP definition), which are sex-separated and usable at the school or health-care facility;*

(b) *Basic drinking water service: Water from an improved source (according to JMP definition) is available at the school or health-care facility;*

(c) *Basic hygiene service: Handwashing facility with water and soap available to students (schools) or patients and health-care providers (health-care facilities).*

*If the above definitions/categories do not apply in your country, please report for alternative categories for which data are available. In this case, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.*

*Please indicate the source of data. If data is not available, please put (-).*

<i>Institutional setting</i>	<i>Current value (2017)</i>
<i>Schools</i>	
Basic sanitation service	100%
Basic drinking-water service	100%
Basic hygiene service	Not known
<i>Health-care facilities</i>	
Basic sanitation service	100%
Basic drinking-water service	100%
Basic hygiene service	Not known

2. Has the situation of WASH in schools been assessed in your country?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

3. Has the situation of WASH in health-care facilities been assessed in your country?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

4. Do approved policies or programmes include actions (please tick all that apply):

To improve WASH in schools

To improve WASH in health-care facilities

5. If yes, please provide reference to main relevant national policy(ies) or programme(s).

**2. Safe management of drinking-water supply**

1. Is there a national policy or regulation in your country, which requires implementation of risk-based management, such as WHO water safety plans (WSPs), in drinking water supply?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

2. If yes, please provide reference to relevant national policy(ies) or regulatory documentation.

3. In the table below, please provide information on the percentage of the population serviced with drinking-water under a WSP.

*Please indicate the source of data. If data is not available, please put (-).*

<i>Percentage of population</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
<b>Total</b>	

**3. Equitable access to water and sanitation**

1. Has the equity of access to safe drinking-water and sanitation been assessed?

YES  NO  IN PROGRESS

10. Do national policies or programmes include actions to improve equitable access to water and sanitation (please tick all that apply):

- To reduce geographical disparities
- To ensure access for vulnerable and marginalized groups
- To keep water and sanitation affordable for all

11. If yes, please provide reference to main relevant national policy(ies) and programme(s).

**Part seven  
Information on the person submitting the report**

The following report is submitted on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_  
[name of the Party, Signatory or other State] in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health.

Name of officer responsible for submitting the national report:

E-mail:

Telephone number:

Name and address of national authority:

Signature:

Date:

### **Submission**

1. Parties are required to submit their summary reports to the joint secretariat, using the present template and in accordance with the adopted guidelines on reporting, 210 days before the next session of the Meeting of the Parties. Submission of the reports ahead of this deadline is encouraged, as this will facilitate the preparation of analyses and syntheses to be made available to the Meeting of the Parties.
2. Parties are requested to submit, to the two addresses below, an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy by e-mail. Electronic copies should be available in word-processing software.

### **Joint Secretariat to the Protocol on Water and Health**

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
(E-mail: [protocol.water\\_health@unece.org](mailto:protocol.water_health@unece.org))

World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe  
WHO European Centre for Environment and Health  
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1  
53113 Bonn  
Germany  
(E-mail: [euwatsan@who.int](mailto:euwatsan@who.int))

---